

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1022

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2005

TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN EARTHQUAKE HIT AREAS

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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of persons have been killed as terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir have increased after the recent earthquake;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a particular community in this region is living under a constant threat of being killed by the terrorists; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the lives of this vulnerable section of the people?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b): As per the report of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, there is no increase in terrorist activities in the State after the recent earthquake.

During the period October 9, 2005 to November 15, 2005 (post earthquake) 167 terrorist related incidents took place in which 62 civilians were killed as compared to 219 incidents in which 70 civilians were killed during the period September 1, 2005 to October 8, 2005 (pre earthquake).

(c): There is no such specific threat to a particular community. However, civilians belonging to both majority and minority communities have been victims of terrorist activities in the State. There have been some incidents where terrorists have specifically targeted members of a particular community.

(d): Various steps have been taken by the State Government to protect the life and property of minority community members in Jammu and Kashmir which include:-

- (i) Pickets of Security Forces (SFs) have been established in the villages/clusters inhabited by minority community in Kashmir valley.
- (ii) Adequate weaponry and communication facilities are provided at these pickets with the nearest SF units entrusted with the task of area sanitization.
- (iii) Village Defence Committees (VDCs) have been established at far-flung areas inhabited by minority community members in Jammu province.
- (iv) The Security Forces conduct frequent patrolling in the hinterland and areas inhabited by minority community members at these locations.
- (v) Construction of clusters of residential houses at Sheikpora Budgam, Mattan Anantnag and Kheer Bhawani Srinagar in Kashmir valley for secure stay of the members of minority community at these places.